



Satellite image with enhanced low cloud-top temperatures (degrees C) for 7:15 a.m. EDT (NOAA)

Agricultural Weather Highlights - Tuesday - August 8, 2000

- C** *In the West*, hot, mostly dry weather is promoting an unusually active wildfire season and maintaining heavy irrigation demands.
- C** *On the Plains*, hot, dry weather in ***northern areas*** is hastening the maturation of spring-sown small grains. On the ***central Plains***, hot, dry conditions are stressing immature summer crops, while beneficial showers dot the ***southern High Plains***.
- C** *In the Corn Belt*, locally heavy rain returned to the region last night, maintaining adequate soil moisture levels for filling summer crops.
- C** *In the South*, topsoil moisture shortages from the ***Delta westward*** are stressing pastures and immature summer crops. In the ***Southeast***, where today's high temperatures are forecast to approach 100 degrees F, heat is offsetting the beneficial effects of last week's rainfall.

Outlook: Showers and thunderstorms are forecast to spread across the ***Corn Belt*** and into the ***East*** by mid-week. Much-needed rain will return to the ***Southeast*** by week's end, but hot, mostly dry weather will persist across the ***western half of the U.S.*** The NWS 6-10 day outlook for August 13-17 calls for hot weather to expand eastward from the ***Plains and Intermountain West***, bringing the highest temperatures of the summer to much of the ***Corn Belt***. Near- to below-normal temperatures will be confined to the ***East, South, and Northwest***. Mostly dry weather is forecast to persist in the ***West*** and develop in much of the ***Corn Belt***, but showers will boost topsoil moisture across the ***South***.

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